

a first polarization converter element for aligning an oscillational direction of light irradiated from said first light source toward said color synthesizing optical system;

a second polarization converter element for aligning an oscillational direction of light irradiated from said second light source toward said color synthesizing optical system; and

a third polarization converter element for aligning an oscillational direction of light irradiated from said third light source toward said color synthesizing optical system;

wherein a synthesizing light with an oscillational direction thereof being aligned is irradiated from said color synthesizing optical system.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-16 and 19-28 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 12, 17 and 18 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of the rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Specifically, features of canceled, dependent claims are added to claim 1. Thus, entry of this Amendment cannot raise new issues.

I. THE CLAIMS DEFINE ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 8, 9, 14-16 and 20-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Kenji et al. in view of Enomoto et al.; claims 1-4, 6, 7, 19, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Shoichi et al. in view of Enomoto; claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Kenji in view of Enomoto and further in view of Miyashita et al.; and claims 12, 13, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Kenji in view of Enomoto and further in view of Tomonori et al. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Kenji, Shoichi and Enomoto do not disclose a light source device that comprises three color light sources and a synthesizing optical system for synthesizing light from the three color sources to irradiate a synthesized light, wherein each polarization converter element is arranged in correspondingly relation with the respective color, a polarized axis of light is aligned from each light source to the light synthesizing optical system, and an oscillational direction of light is aligned with light being irradiated from the synthesizing optical system, as claimed in claim 1. Specifically, the light source device disclosed in each of the above references does not include a device for aligning the oscillating direction of light irradiated from the three light sources to the synthesizing optical system.

In addition, Tomonori discloses a light source for emitting white light for the background for use in a liquid crystal display device. Tomonori does not disclose the use of three color light source, wherein light therefrom is synthesized by the color synthesizing optical system. Tomonori also does not disclose the use of a polarization converter element which is deployed between the light source and the element.

Further, even if the light source disclosed in Tomonori is applied to the present application, polarizing conversion takes place after light is synthesized. The polarization

converter element disclosed in Tomonori is arranged in front of the light synthesizing optical system, which is clearly different from that of the claimed invention.

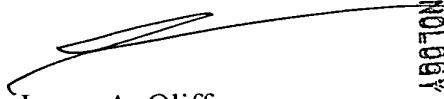
For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is distinguishable over the applied art. Further, claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-16 and 19-28, which depend from claim 1, are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed as well as for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

II. CONCLUSION

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Eric D. Morehouse
Registration No. 38,565

JAO:EDM/gam

Attachments:

Appendix
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: February 12, 2002

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

RECEIVED
FEB 12 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461